

## **Legal Fee Information for Private Individual Immigration**

### **Introduction**

We have set out below the issues you need to consider in relation to Legal Fees and disbursements for the preparation and submission of immigration applications, excluding asylum applications and the provision of advice and representation at the First-tier Tribunal (Immigration and Asylum Chamber) in relation to appeals against Home Office visa or immigration decisions, excluding asylum appeals.

Our Legal Fees cover all work required to handle your case from instruction to conclusion.

### **Legal Fees and action we will take**

Legal Fees are the amount you will be required to pay for all the work performed by us in actioning your instructions from commencement of your case to conclusion.

Our immigration services for private individuals are based on an hourly rate of between £250-£450 plus VAT (£300 - £540 Inc. VAT). The hourly rate is based on our Business Immigration Solicitor with +10 years post qualification experience and a Registered Foreign lawyer with +10 years post qualification experience..

Immigration matters are increasingly complex and there are multiple variables however, we will give you an accurate estimate once we have taken initial instructions from you and these will be agreed upon and stated in our engagement letter.

Below we have given a range of fees associated with various immigration applications, these are for straightforward immigration matters where the Applicant can satisfy the Immigration Rules. The higher end of the fee range is for matters that may have moderate complexity or time-consuming factors.

The exact number of hours required and associated cost depends on the circumstances in your case.

These circumstances include:

- The amount of supporting evidence that we need to consider
- Whether you meet the requirements of the Immigration Rules easily
- Which language(s) you speak
- Whether you are applying with other dependants- we charge separately for each dependant
- Any previous adverse immigration history and any criminal records
- The complexity of your matter
- The urgency of your matter
- What service is included in the price

**What service is included in the price**

The following activities will be included:

- assessing your circumstances in detail and confirming which is the most appropriate application for you to make and what other options may be available to you;
- giving you advice about the requirements of the law and assessing whether you meet the criteria;
- if you do not fulfil certain criteria, how this might be overcome;
- providing you with a detailed and tailored checklist of documents for your particular application and certain templates;
- considering your supporting evidence and providing feedback and advice;
- preparing the application covering letter with legal representations;
- liaising with any third parties such as your accountants or business consultants to obtain the required evidence;
- completing the application form following your instructions and offering advice on completion and booking of visa appointments in the UK or abroad;
- preparing your application package for submission to the Home Office and advising on processing timelines;
- liaising with the Home Office on any further enquiries;
- advising about the outcome of the application, conditions of your visa and any immediate further steps you need to take.

Disbursements are costs related to your matter that are payable to third parties, such as visa fees. These are payable to the Home Office.

**The costs quoted here do not include:**

- Any Home Office fees for making the application. You will pay these to the Home Office directly as part of the application process
- Home Office immigration health surcharge
- Where the Home Office refuse your application, any advice and assistance in relation to any appeal or further application.
- Applications for Dependents such as partner or child under 18
- Costs for English language tests, Tuberculosis tests, criminal record certificates, biometrics.
- Attendance at a Home Office interview: Interviews are rare in most categories, if the Home Office ask you to attend an interview, we can give you clear advice (and discuss the possibility of us attending with you) at the appropriate time. We can give you an additional quote for this if required.

### **Processing and preparation times**

We cannot guarantee how long the Home Office will take to process your application. Details of current processing times can be found on the government website.

There are vastly different processing times depending on the application you are making and we can advise you in detail once instructed.

We ask clients to instruct us at least 2-6 months before their intended visa start date, or expiry date of their current visa to ensure they have enough time to qualify under time sensitive requirements in relation to financial evidence and prepare complex documents adequately.

Our fees are based on our average hourly rate of £250- 450 plus VAT (£300-£540 including VAT) and vary depending upon the exact type of application as well as the specific issues, complexities and urgencies involved.

### **Applications for naturalisation or registration under the British Nationality Act 1981**

On average, the cost of this application would be between £3,000 and £6,000 + VAT (£3,600 - £7,200 Inc. VAT).

### **Applications on behalf of European Economic Area (EEA) nationals and their family members under the applicable EEA Regulations or Immigration Rules, including applications for permanent residence, residence cards, and registration certificates**

On average, the cost of this application would be between £2,500 and £6,250 + VAT (£3,000 - £7,500 Inc. VAT).

### **Application under EU Settlement Scheme for EU Citizens and their family members**

On average, the cost of this application would be between £750 and £,2000 + VAT (£900 - £2,400 Inc. VAT). More complex matter like late applications, applications as joining family members or administrative review would cost between £2,000 and £4,000 (£2,400 - £4,800 Inc. VAT).

### **Applications for spouse and partners applications, including fiancé(e)s, same-sex partners or proposed civil partners**

On average, the cost of this application would be between £2,500 and £6,250+VAT (£3,000 - £7,500 Inc. VAT).

**Representative of an Overseas Business Visa**

On average, the cost of this application would be between £3,750 and £9,000 + VAT (£4,500 - £10,800 Inc. VAT).

**Visitor Visa applications for tourism, business or family visit**

On average, the cost of this application would be between £1,500 and £4,500+VAT (£1,800 - £5,400 Inc. VAT).

**Applications to settle in the UK (indefinite leave to remain) or on the basis of long residence**

On average, the cost of this application would be between £2,500 and £7,500 +VAT (£3,000 - £9,000 Inc. VAT).

**Points Based System Applications****Applications for Students under Tier 4 General Student or Child Student visas-for study in the UK**

On average, the cost of this application would be between £2,000 and £4,800 + VAT (£2,400 - £5,760 Inc. VAT).

**Applications for Employment (Tier 2 General & Tier 2 Intra Company Transfer) and Business (Tier 1 Entrepreneur & Tier 1 Investor)**

On average, the cost of this application would be between £2,500 and £13,500 +VAT (£3,000 - £16,200 Inc. VAT).

**Tier 1 Exceptional Talent Visa**

On average, the cost of this application would be between £2,500 and £7,500.00 +VAT (£3000 - £9,000 Inc. VAT).

**Applications for Tier 1 Graduate Entrepreneur**

On average, the cost of this application would be between £2,500 and £7,500 +VAT (£3,000 - £9,000 Inc. VAT).

If at any stage our fees change, we will notify you and discuss the reason for any changes. This would typically occur if you change your instructions or your case involves an unforeseen complexity.

**Our average fees assume that:**

The transaction is concluded in a timely manner and no unforeseen complication arise.

All parties to the transaction are co-operative and there is no unreasonable delay from any parties providing documentation.

**Disbursements and Other Costs**

Disbursements may be incurred in the handling of the matter for you. Typical Disbursements may include:

- Court representation at Case Management Review Hearings, First Tier Tribunal and Upper Tribunal will be chargeable at counsel's rate. If Counsel is required to be instructed a quotation for their services will be obtained from them and discussed with you before they are instructed to ensure you are fully aware of the fees that will be charged.
- Where an interpreter is required, you will be responsible for the costs at the interpreter's hourly rate.
- IHS Surcharge – additional fee levied by the Home Office to pay for the NHS and depends on your status and the fees are reviewed regularly. Further information is available on [www.gov.uk/healthcare-immigration-application](http://www.gov.uk/healthcare-immigration-application)

Further to our fees stated above, you will also be responsible for the Home Office Fees, which vary depending on your application.

**How long will my matter take?**

Provided all the relevant documents in a timely manner, we should be able to submit your application in 2-4 weeks. We cannot guarantee how long the Home Office will take to process your application. Please read the published processing times which are approximate.

This is merely an estimate and we will of course be able to give you a more accurate timescale once we have more information and as the matter progresses.

**Fee Earners**

The following fee earner handles Immigration matters:

1. Laya Falsafi is a qualified solicitor. Laya qualified in 2006 and specialises in all areas of Immigration Law. Laya is supervised by Jacques Smith and Martin Lewis, who are both Partners at the firm.
2. Manuela Travaglini is a Registered Foreign Lawyer and is supervised by Martin Lewis, who is a Partner at the firm.
3. Shamaila Khan is a qualified solicitor. Shamaila qualified in 2008 and specialises in all areas of immigration law. Shamaila is supervised by Jacques Smith and Martin Lewis. who are both Partners at the firm.

PHILLIPS LEWIS SMITH

IN ASSOCIATION WITH



**Belluzzo**  
INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS

## Questions

If you have any questions relating to our services and our fees, please contact us on +44 (0)20 7925 2244 or email us at [office@plslex.com](mailto:office@plslex.com).